

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 571

By Bone

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Melvin Arnett for
laudable service to the people of this State.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who through their extraordinary efforts have furthered the agricultural goals of this great State and, in so doing, have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Melvin Arnett, who served as a Wilson County Extension Agent for thirty-eight years with the University of Tennessee Agricultural Extension Service; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of Mr. Arnett's stellar service to the people of Wilson County, a building inside the James E. Ward Agricultural Center will be dedicated in his honor on Sunday, April 27, 2003; and

WHEREAS, in his thirty-eight years of service as a Wilson County Extension Agent, he touched many lives as he worked to avail the people of the county to research-based education on agriculture, family and consumer science, and rural development; he was especially valuable in overseeing the 4-H program; and

WHEREAS, in addition, Mr. Arnett was instrumental in both eras of the Wilson County Fair: the original which dates back to a site off Coles Ferry Pike, and today's award-winning fair, which is consistently recognized as among the best in the State; and

WHEREAS, as one of the guiding forces for reinvigorating the county fair in the mid-1980s, he believed in the fair as an important event for the county; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Arnett was also one of the strongest supporters for establishing an Agricultural Center in Wilson County, working with county officials to secure the original funding for the site that holds the Center today; and

WHEREAS, he lobbied heavily to see that the Agricultural Center would be named after his mentor, James E. Ward; considered by many in Wilson County to be a role model and agricultural and civic leader in his own right, Mr. Arnett will soon see that well-deserved honor returned; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Arnett is most grateful for the love and companionship he shares with his wife, Elsie; and

WHEREAS, he epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Melvin Arnett for his dedication to the State of Tennessee and its citizens; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend Melvin Arnett for his meritorious service to the State of Tennessee and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

